THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) and (b) On the occasion of World Environment Day, an Ornithology Centre at Bombay was started and an afforestation programme, entitled "Rehabilitation of common lands in the Aravali Hills in Haryana" was launched. Besides, various other programmes like tree plantations holding of exhibitions, special lectures workshops were held.

(c) The programme is being implemented with financial assistance of Rs. 39.34 crores from the European Economic Community (EEC). The project extends over 293 villages in four districts with a total geographical coverage of 1,46,000 ha.

Threat from Pakistan's Naval Prowess

134. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item under the captioned 'Pak Navy teeth now sharper' which appeared in the National Herald of June 16, 1990, quoting a US Journal according to which Pakistan has acquired the critical surface and air capabilities required to inflict conspicuous and possibly unacceptable damage to the Indian Navy in a battle; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government closely monitor all developments that have a bearing on our security and take adequate measures to equip our Defence Services to effectively deal with all threats to our security.

Admission in Science Courses in Delhi and other Metropolitan Cities

135. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of students do not get admission in science courses in the colleges of Delhi and other metropolitan cities after their secondary education despite securing upto 85 per cent of marks; and

(b) what are Government's plans to provide adequate educational facilities so that students do not get depressed in getting higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) According to information furnished by Delhi University, it is not a fact that candidates securing upto 85 per cent marks in the qualifying examination have been denied admission in Delhi Colleges. In fact, in some of the colleges, the minimum qualifying marks for admission to Science Courses have been in the range of 66 to 80 per cent. However, in order to meet the demand for admission in Science courses in Delhi Colleges, the University Grants Commission has agreed to the introduction of additional courses in Science subjects in six colleges this year with intake capacity of 140 students .

Information regarding admission in Science courses in Colleges in other metropolitan cities is not available.

(b) The requirement and feasibility for starting new colleges/courses in a particular region is determined by